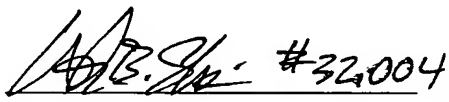
REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependent claims in order to avoid the additional fee. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:

Claims 3 to 7, 11, 14, 18 and 19 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

4. (Amended) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a (C_6-C_{10}) aryl group optionally substituted with halogen, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6) alkyl, nitro and hydroxyl.

5. (Amended) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that n is 0 or 1 and R_1 represents a halogen atom.

6. (Amended) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that X represents S;

R_4 represents a hydrogen atom;

R_5 represents (C_1-C_6)alkyl; hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl; (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl; (C_5-C_8)cycloalkenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl; or isoxazolyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted with one or more (C_1-C_6)alkyls; $-CH_2-CR_a=CR_bR_c$ in which R_a is a hydrogen atom, (C_1-C_6)alkyl or (C_6-C_{10})aryl, R_b is (C_1-C_6)alkyl or a hydrogen atom and R_c represents a hydrogen atom or (C_2-C_{10})alkenyl; a group $-CH_2-CO-Z$ in which Z represents (C_1-C_{10})alkyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or (C_6-C_{10})aryl optionally fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, nitro or (C_6-C_{10})aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6)alkyl, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6)alkoxy or nitro);

or alternatively R_4 and R_5 together form a group $-CR_6=CR_7-$ in which

R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl (optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, (C_1-C_6)alkyl or (C_1-C_6)alkoxy), carboxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, or (C_1-C_6)alkoxy-carbonyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl; and

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom; hydroxyl; di(C_1-C_6)alkylamino(C_1-C_6)alkyl; (C_1-C_{10})alkyl; (C_1-C_6)alkoxycarbonyl; (C_6-C_{10})aryl; heteroaryl; (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl; the aryl and heteroaryl portions of these radicals optionally being substituted with (C_1-C_6)alkoxycarbonyl, halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl, (this radical optionally being substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy or nitro) or (C_6-C_{10})aryl fused to a 5- to 7-membered aromatic or unsaturated heterocycle comprising one, two or three endocyclic hetero atoms chosen from O, N and S; or alternatively R_6 and R_7 together form an alkylene chain interrupted with a nitrogen atom optionally substituted with (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkyl in which the aryl portion is optionally substituted with halogen, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, hydroxyl or nitro.

7. (Amended) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that X represents -NT; and R_4 and R_5 together form a group $-CR_6=CR_7-$ in which R_6 represents a hydrogen atom and R_7 represents hydroxyl or (C_6-C_{10}) aryl optionally substituted with halogen , nitro, hydroxyl, optionally halogenated (C_1-C_6) alkyl or (C_1-C_6) alkoxy.

11. (Amended) Process according to Claim 9, also comprising the alkylation of a compound of formula I obtained according to the process of Claim 9 or Claim 10 in whichR_4 represents a hydrogen atom using a suitable alkylating agent, so as to obtain the corresponding compound of formula I in which R_4 represents (C_1-C_{18}) alkyl.

14. (Amended) Process according to Claim 12, characterized in that the temperature is maintained at between 100 and 125 ∘C.

18. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition containing an effective amount of at least one compound of formula (I) according to Claim 1, in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

19. (Amended) Use of a compound of formula I according to Claim 1, for the preparation of a medicinal product for preventing or treating dyslipidaemia, atherosclerosis and diabetes and its complications.